GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5712
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2001
EXECUTION OF AMBITIOUS GENOME PROJECT
SUSHILA SAROJ

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research activities in the sphere of inventing new medicines are getting badly affected due to the interference of the organisations fighting for social justice and animals rights;

(b) whether the execution of the ambitious `Genome Project` of the Government is badly affected due to the interference by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to frame guidelines in this regard so that the research work in the field of medicine may not be suffered; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d): According to ICMR, which is coordinating the research activities in Bio-medical sciences in the country, the research activities at inventing new medicines and execution of genome project, have been affected following framing of rules on experimental animals although the objective of these rules are stated to be not to put hinderances on research activities, but to ensure that animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain before & after experimentation.

The difficulties faced by the scientists are being addressed so as to ensure that research activities in the field of Bio Medical Sciences progresses unhindered.